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826 Michigan names new executive director

TYLER CLIFFORD  

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- Naimah Wade to lead 826 Michigan
- Ann Arbor-based nonprofit tutors in writing and other subjects
- Organization was named a Crain's Best Managed Nonprofit in 2013

The Ann Arbor-based nonprofit 826 Michigan has named Naimah Wade as its new executive director.



Naimah Wade

On Jan. 29 she replaced Amanda Uhle, a 2008 *Crain's* Twenty in their 20s [honoree](#), who departed to become CEO of The Hawkins Project in Ann Arbor.

Wade will lead 826 Michigan, which is an affiliate of 826 National based in San Francisco, and its thousands of volunteers to help students with writing skills and teachers with inspiring students to write. 826 Michigan also offers tutoring in other subjects and serves students in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti and Detroit.

Wade, 37, spent the past decade at Wayne State University in coordinator, instructional and program managing roles. That includes being a coordinator of special programs in the Office of Educational Outreach and International Programs and as program manager of the Harris Literacy

Program.

"Naimah brings a depth of experience in program design, organization management and community building, as well as a strategic and thoughtful approach to all aspects of our work," 826 Michigan board President Nicole de Beaufort said in a statement. "Her leadership is exactly what we need to take 826 Michigan into our next chapter."

Wade has a Ph.D. in learning design and technology and an MBA with emphasis in organizational management from Wayne State University, and a bachelor's degree in business marketing from Michigan State University, according to the release.

826 Michigan was founded in 2005, three years after 826 National. The nonprofit was a *Crain's* Best Managed Nonprofit 2013 [finalist](#).

The Hawkins Project was founded in 2017 by novelist Dave Eggers, who also co-founded 826 National, to make grants to organizations that promote literary and visually creative works, according to its [website](#).

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